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DECLARATION

As the below named joint inventors, we hereby declare that:

Our residences, post office addresses, and citizenship are as stated below.

We believe we are the original, first and joint inventors of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: **METHODS OF FUNCTIONALIZING AND FUNCTIONALIZED METAL OXIDE PARTICLES AND MECHANICALLY STRONG AND TRANSPARENT OR TRANSLUCENT COMPOSITES MADE USING SUCH PARTICLES.**

We hereby state that we have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims.

We acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application, in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.56.

We hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

PRIORITY CLAIMED

NONE

(number)

(Country)

(Date filed)

We hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112. We acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56, regarding events which occurred between the filing date of any such prior application and the national or PCT International filing date of this application:

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Status)

09/314,350

May 19, 1999

Pending

We hereby direct that all correspondence and telephone calls be addressed to Paula D. Morris, Paula D. Morris & Associates, P.C., 2925 Briarpark Dr., Suite 930, Houston, TX 77042-3728, (713) 334-5151.

We hereby declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.


FULL NAME AND ADDRESS OF INVENTOR(S):

Benjamin L. Furman
6609 Spring Lark
San Antonio, Texas 78249
Citizenship: United States

Date

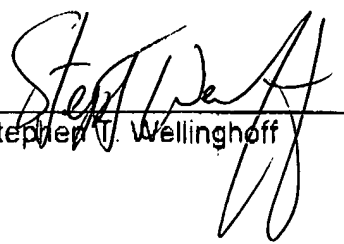
Benjamin L. Furman

Stephen T. Wellinghoff
7718 Benbrook
San Antonio, Texas 78058
Citizenship: United States



April 6, 2001

Date



Stephen T. Wellinghoff


We hereby direct that all correspondence and telephone calls be addressed to Paula D. Morris, Paula D. Morris & Associates, P.C., 2925 Briarpark Dr., Suite 930, Houston, TX 77042-3728, (713) 334-5151.

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FULL NAME AND ADDRESS OF INVENTOR(S):

Benjamin L. Furman
6609 Spring Lark
San Antonio, Texas 78249
Citizenship: United States

9-5-2000
Date


Benjamin L. Furman
R. B.R.F.

Stephen T. Wellinghoff
7718 Benbrook
San Antonio, Texas 78058
Citizenship: United States

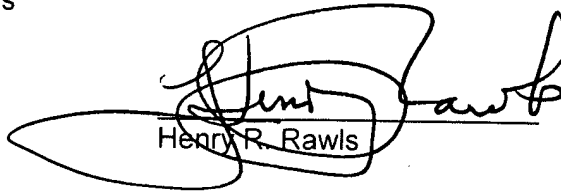
Date

Stephen T. Wellinghoff

Henry R. Rawls
~~340 Argo Avenue~~
San Antonio, Texas 78209
Citizenship: United States

9/5/2000
Date

430 Garraty Road


Henry R. Rawls

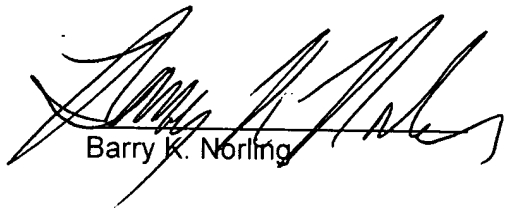
Hong Dixon
11417 Lago Vista
Helotes, Texas 78023
Citizenship: United States

Date

Hong Dixon

Barry K. Norling
13427 Shorecliff Street
San Antonio, Texas 78248
Citizenship: United States

9-5-2000
Date


Barry K. Norling